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A RADIO DISCUSSION OF

ECONOMIC UNION FOR THE AMERICAS

HENRY A. WALLACE
Secretary of Agriculture

ROBERT PLATT · J. FRED RIPPY · WILLIAM H. SPENCER

332nd BROADCAST IN COOPERATION WITH THE NATIONAL BROADCASTING COMPANY • 120

JUNE 30, 1940

The University of Chicago

ROUND TABLE

Published weekly. 10 cents a copy; five copies, 25 cents; half-year subscription, 26 issues, one dollar. Published by the University of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois. Entered as second-class matter January 3, 1939, at the post office at Chicago, Illinois, under the Act of March 3, 1879.

No. 120

NOTE

The supplementary information contained in the footnotes to the following text, developed by staff research, is not to be considered as representing the opinions of the ROUND TABLE *speakers. Following the transcript of the broadcast are questions which readers may wish to use for analysis and discussion. It is hoped that teachers and discussion leaders may find this additional service of the* ROUND TABLE *transcript helpful in their study of the subject discussed in the broadcast.*

ECONOMIC UNION FOR THE AMERICAS*

A UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO ROUND TABLE BROADCAST

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HENRY A. WALLACE, Secretary of Agriculture

ROBERT S. PLATT, Professor of Geography, University of Chicago

J. FRED RIPPY, Professor of American History, University of Chicago

WILLIAM H. SPENCER, Dean of the School of Business, Professor of Business Law, University of Chicago

* A radio discussion broadcast from the University of Chicago and Washington, D.C., over the Red Network of the National Broadcasting Company, Sunday, June 30, 1940, at 1:30 P.M., Central Daylight Saving Time.

The ROUND TABLE, oldest educational program continuously on the air, is broadcast entirely without a script. Subjects are chosen because of their social, political, or economic significance. The program has no "ax to grind." In the selection of speakers, the effort is to provide a balanced discussion by participants who have special competence and knowledge. The opinion of each speaker is his own and in no way involves the responsibility of either the University of Chicago or the National Broadcasting Company.

ECONOMIC UNION FOR THE AMERICAS

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MR. SPENCER: Some days ago President Roosevelt made a very interesting statement to the press concerning the possibility of forming some sort of cooperative economic plan with the Latin-American countries.

MR. RIPPY: It seems to propose a cooperative economic defense of the Americas to support the military defense of the Americas.[1]

MR. PLATT: It seems to me that there is good reason why the details aren't very well known yet: they haven't been announced by the President. The details can't all be worked out until later. Perhaps we are to have a single corporation to handle exports, or possibly several corporations for individual commodities.

MR. SPENCER: This is something which is to be discussed in July by the American republics and we won't know much about it

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[1] *In a press conference June 21, 1940, President Roosevelt described plans for economic unity among the American nations "as a further safeguard for the peace of this hemisphere and as a means of protecting our economy and the economies of the other American republics from the repercussions of the disturbed international situation."*

until they have had their discussions.[2] But certainly we can believe that they are going to attempt to form some sort of Pan-American trading agency to take care of the buying and selling of commodities.

MR. RIPPY: It will concern all of Latin America.

MR. PLATT: Yes, the countries south of the United States: Mexico, Central America, and all the continent of South America.

MR. SPENCER: Platt, you have visited practically every South American country and have flown over most of them. How would you characterize these Latin-American republics?

MR. PLATT: That's a large order. The Latin-American area is larger than the United States; it contains almost as many people as the United States; it is a very complex area. Three languages are spoken in South America: Spanish, Portuguese, and French.[3] There are Europeans, Indians, Negroes. There are cities, industrial districts, farms, and deserts.

MR. SPENCER: How do the people differ with respect to their occupations?

MR. PLATT: There are many farmers, but there are all the different kinds of industries and occupations that we have here.

MR. SPENCER: And to a considerable extent, of course, they do engage in mining, do they not?

MR. PLATT: Mining is very important, but I should think we ought to understand that Latin America as a whole is not necessarily

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[2] *The conference of the American nations is to meet at Havana, Cuba, July 20.*

[3] *Spanish is the language of eighteen of the Latin-American republics; Brazil uses Portuguese and Haiti French.*

so very different from the United States and that almost everything in the United States is represented in Latin America.

MR. RIPPY: They are making considerable progress in industrial development—at least in some of the countries—are they not?

MR. PLATT: Almost every country has made some progress—some more than others.

MR. RIPPY: Could you classify these countries into broad regional groups, or must you have twenty different regions because there are twenty countries?

MR. PLATT: Classification is possible for certain purposes. We can say there are the tropical plantation countries, there are the mining countries, and there are the middle latitude farming countries; but there is variety within all these.[4]

MR. RIPPY: But they all export much more of their total production than we do, don't they?

MR. PLATT: Oh yes, they specialize more than we do in this country, and they specialize for export.

MR. SPENCER: As I understand it from what you have said, we must think of the Latin-American countries not merely in terms of their political organizations, but also in terms of the regions which they represent and the commodities produced in those regions.

MR. PLATT: Very much so, and we must not be satisfied with one simple idea for the whole continent.

MR. RIPPY: You mean, we've got to consider each state, or each group of states, as more or less a separate problem and deal with it in detail?

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[4] *See pictomaps, pages 6, 7, 10, 11, 13.*

MR. PLATT: Yes, a complexity of problems.

MR. SPENCER: Fortunately, the University of Chicago ROUND TABLE has made special arrangements for its listeners to hear for the first time a statement on this Pan-American program (that is, a possible central trading agency) by the member of the President's Cabinet who will have the major responsibility in seeing the program through. Since both the United States and Latin America are agricultural areas, one of the greatest problems of the program will be the handling of agricultural products. No one knows this better than the Secretary of Agriculture.

We present now the Honorable Henry A. Wallace, Secretary of Agriculture.

*

MR. WALLACE: Hitler may become the master of all Europe. Realizing that, we have turned our backs on any weak policy of appeasement which might cost millions of American lives later on. Instead we have chosen preparedness as the road to peace. We must become strong enough to command fear and respect on the part of every aggressor. The military program looking to the territorial security of this hemisphere is under way. A Pan-American trade program looking to the economic security of the New World is the next step, and twenty-one American republics, including ourselves, must make some swift and momentous decisions. Adequate economic defense will not cost us any lives on either side of the Panama Canal. It will cost some money, but it will cost far less than the enormous armaments and fortifications which we shall have to build to guard our own borders if there is no solidarity in the New World to match that of the dictators.

Hitler's basic strategy is one of "divide and conquer." He used it to seize power within Germany and to conquer much of Europe without fighting. He used it through "fifth column" intrigue to set

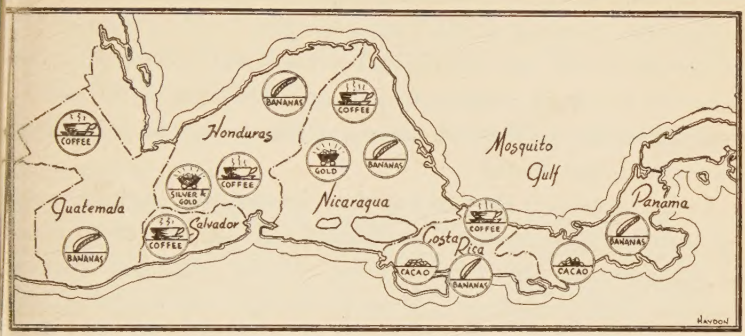
CHIEF EXPORTS OF LATIN AMERICA: I

one group in a country against another. After such internal dissension weakened a country, military conquest was easy.

News accounts from South America show that "divide and conquer" strategy is already being tried against this hemisphere. Hitler is trying to split us away from each other, one country at a time. Our South American neighbors have large surpluses of wheat and corn and cotton and petroleum which they want to sell, and which we have in abundance ourselves. If Hitler can conquer Great Brittain, he will be in position to make what will look like attractive offers for the surpluses of Latin America. Following the strategy he has used in Europe, he will want us in this hemisphere to think of each other as bitter competitors—not as neighbors who are capable of presenting a united front to a solid Europe under his control.

If exports from country after country in the New World shrank toward zero, threatening farmers and businessmen alike, Hitler would have his chance to stir up dissension within this hemisphere. He could step forward and play one country against another with offers for surplus goods. Later on, after these offers were accepted, he could threaten to withdraw that trade unless he got economic and political concessions. Those who supported him would get the

CHIEF EXPORTS OF LATIN AMERICA: II



business; those who refused probably would find their export markets closed. Thus, Hitler might easily dominate both North and South America.

This description is not prophecy; it is simply an extension into the new world of German operations for the last few years. Unless we prevent Hitler's "divide and conquer" strategy from succeeding in this hemisphere, both the United States and our sister republics will be in grave danger.

The American republics can minimize the possibility of ultimate military attack if they unify their economic power. Together they control a large share of the world's supply of petroleum, foods, and fibers. Europe will need these after the war is over. If the Americas, for example, could consolidate their sales of raw materials through one great inter-American corporation and sell for export only through that agency, they would be in as strong a bargaining position as Germany.

We in the New World have economic power; we have gold. The hour has come to use both of them in a positive way.

This does not mean dumping the surpluses of one American republic into another burdened with the same surpluses. It does mean

getting ready to act to meet a united Europe with a united New World; once more, we must hang together or surely we shall hang separately. In saying all this I recognize that England has a chance ultimately to win. But even in such a case it will be essential for the Americas to present a united front in re-establishing world trade on a sensible basis, so that the hungry of Europe can be fed without ruining the New World.

I want to make it clear to American farmers that the gains made by American agriculture will be retained and that we shall constantly strengthen our own farm program. Money judiciously spent in handling South American surpluses in the right way will do as much to assure peace in this hemisphere and good prices for the United States' farm products as any equal expenditure I can imagine. Cooperating with Latin America will surely benefit American farmers.

*

MR. SPENCER: That is a very interesting and significant statement. This is the first time that an official of the government has made any such statement on this matter which has such profound significance to each and every citizen in the country.

I was particularly impressed by the Secretary's statement that: "If the Americas, for example, could consolidate their sales of raw materials through one great inter-American corporation and sell for export only through that agency, they would be in as strong a bargaining position as Germany."

In view of these very strong statements I would like to go back for a moment to see what our balance sheet was prior to the present war.

MR. RIPPY: Mr. Wallace has certainly pointed out an interesting approach to the subject. As a matter of fact, the economic interdependence of the Americas is great even now. It has been

growing within the last few years. For instance, the United States has trade with Latin America of more than a billion dollars. Eighteen per cent of all of our exports go to Latin America; 25 per cent of all of our imports come from Latin America. But our problem, I think, is deeper than that.

MR. SPENCER: What are some of the things we sell to South American republics?

MR. RIPPY: We sell manufactured products, such as sewing machines and agricultural and industrial machinery. We also sell some agricultural products, but I think the industrial products are the more important.

MR. SPENCER: But what are the agricultural commodities?

MR. RIPPY: We sell flour and wheat to some extent, and we also sell bacon, butter, and eggs.

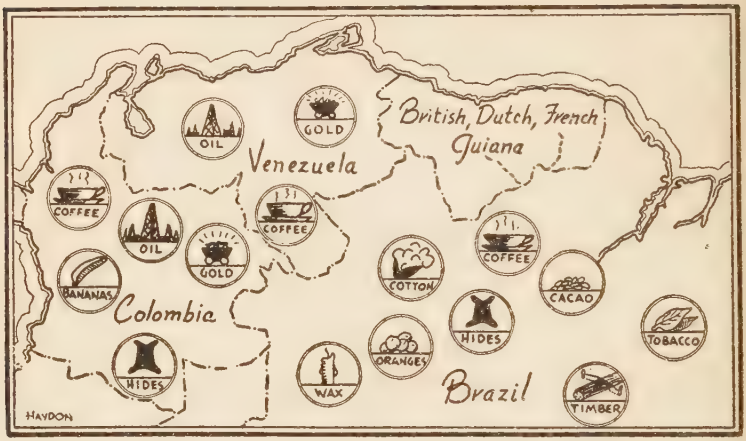
MR. PLATT: Their tropical products come to us and our middle latitude products go to certain parts of Latin America.

MR. RIPPY: Doesn't the main problem center about their commodities which we can't take and our commodities which they can't take?

MR. PLATT: We are dealing with a very complex situation. We have no doubt but that there have been important trade relations between Latin America and the United States, and Latin America and Europe. Latin America has sold some of its most important products to Europe and not to the United States and has gotten some of its most important needs from Europe in the past.

MR. SPENCER: One of the difficult aspects of the problem is that there are a lot of things that we do not buy from the Latin-American countries.

CHIEF EXPORTS OF LATIN AMERICA: III



MR. RIPPY: You are exactly right! Mr. Wallace mentioned the problem of wheat, meat, corn, petroleum, and cotton. Those are the main problems, I think—as well as the main commodities.

MR. SPENCER: It isn't so long ago, of course, that the United States government entered into a contract with Argentina to buy some tinned beef for our army. That created quite an uproar in our western states.

MR. PLATT: Yes, it was sort of a "tempest in a teapot" because we were going to get a small quantity of Argentine beef. That only means that we must recognize that interests in this country are going to be injured by certain things that we do and that we are not going to be able to agree immediately on policies.

MR. RIPPY: Of course, the problem has been made worse by the war in Europe. The surpluses in Latin America are piling up all the time that this war lasts.

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MR. PLATT: Not only made *worse*, but the problem was actually *made*. If we had not had the war in Europe we would not have had to worry about it at all. The dislocation is what is causing our trouble.

MR. SPENCER: Before this present war the United States enjoyed a large trade with the South American countries—and so did Great Britain and Germany—on an increasing scale. Now we find a situation where Great Britain may lose that trade. There will ultimately be a mad scramble for those markets, and the kind of scramble which is going to take place must give us pause. It must give every citizen in this country pause.

MR. RIPPY: You are exactly right, Spencer. This scramble is not merely an economic scramble. It involves politics also. It involves the security of the Americas because of the connection between economics and politics in some of the totalitarian states.

MR. PLATT: That is, it involves our whole system of opera-

tions, our national life, and the world arrangements under which we have been living.

MR. SPENCER: Secretary Wallace mentioned, for instance, that we have a lot of gold here. Well, of course, if the German system of world trade prevails, our gold will be of no value to us, will it, Rippy?[5]

MR. RIPPY: None at all! This is a matter of clashing political systems and clashing economic systems, and it is a dangerous situation.

MR. SPENCER: With the mad scramble for these South American markets, with all sorts of political implications involved, the Latin-American countries undoubtedly would like to extend their trade with this country, would like, of course, to buy more from us; but at the same time they can't do it unless they have the money with which to do it, and of course they can't get the money with which to do it unless they can sell us goods. In the past they have been able to sell a large part of their surpluses abroad, and out of the proceeds have been able to buy things—particularly manufactured products—from our country. But now that situation cannot prevail, in view of the type of competition which we may expect from abroad.

MR. RIPPY: That is the very problem which will be considered in Havana at the meeting in July.

MR. SPENCER: But, of course, the one very serious implication of the whole thing—as Mr. Wallace pointed out—is that we

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[5] *As of January 1, 1940, American stocks of gold were valued at $17,600,000,000, with an additional $1,400,000,000 earmarked. In the last six months substantial additional gold supplies have come into the country, estimated to be in excess of $1,000,000,000.*

CHIEF EXPORTS OF LATIN AMERICA: V

must bring our American agricultural interests to realize that both in the short and in the long run everybody will benefit from a plan by which we can maintain our position in the South American markets. For this reason: that, while for the time being it may seem to injure agriculture, at the same time if we don't do something to hold those markets it will injure our industries even more seriously, which will, of course, then have its effect upon agriculture.

LATIN-AMERICAN TRAD

PER CENT OF TOTAL IMPOR

MR. PLATT: Rather than saying that we have to bring our farmers to see the value of it, I think we have to say we must make plans that will satisfy in one way or another the various groups in this country and the various groups in Latin America.

MR. RIPPY: Yes, the United States can't just present its own plan, and I think it has no idea of doing so. This is a plan to be worked out through collaboration. The United States and the Latin-American republics will furnish suggestions, and by discussion and compromise reach a solution satisfactory to all.

MR. PLATT: We might as well realize at the start that just to say "cartel," as if it was a simple formula and could be applied to everything, won't solve the problem. We must go into the details and solve, for instance, the beef problem for the farmers of the western part of the United States and the Argentine.

MR. SPENCER: We must also solve the cotton problem that is so important in the South and in Brazil.

THE UNITED STATES

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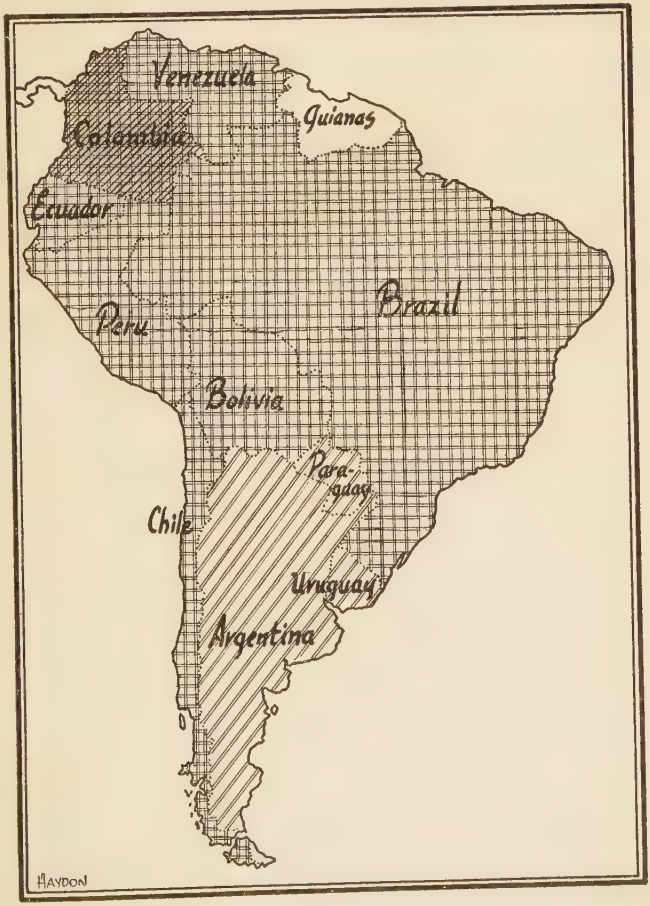

MR. PLATT: That applies to the sugar problem for Louisiana and for Cuba, and the petroleum problem for Venezuela and Texas.

MR. SPENCER: I suppose you mean by "cartel" merely a monopoly in trading, do you not, Platt?

MR. PLATT: I was referring to it simply as an agreement for trading something. That could be very close or rather loose.

MR. SPENCER: The press indicates, for instance, that the Nazis have warned America that they will not tolerate our forming any monopoly which might keep them out of South American markets.[6] So, of course, there is another problem which must and will undoubtedly be considered by the American republics in their attempt to restore order out of the chaotic conditions which are inevitable if Great Britain collapses.

MR. RIPPY: The main problem, then, is how to obtain the collaboration of the Latin Americas in mutual defense. To state it more specifically, it is how to keep Germany out, at least to the extent of reducing or eliminating the danger of political upsets and disorders, by using trade as a means.

MR. SPENCER: Of course we could emulate the example so firmly established abroad by grabbing some territory of our own.

MR. RIPPY: I think we will never do that. That would be contrary to the whole trend of our policy. Our policy is one of collaboration and cooperation.

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[6] *In the publication "Berlin-Rome-Tokyo" an article sanctioned by the propaganda bureau stated Europe to be the greatest market for foodstuffs and raw materials, and warned Latin-American republics that their attitude might determine the future economic relations of the "new Europe" with the Americas.*

MR. SPENCER: I agree with you 100 per cent and I hope the time will never come when we will have to emulate any such example. I believe that we've got enough brains and resources in the two Americas to form a plan to save the Americas for America.

MR. PLATT: We have a good cause in which we have common interests, in Latin America and in this country, and there is no doubt about our ability and resources. One of our troubles is that we let Hitler scare us by saying: "Now you boys over there stop making arrangements!" What we need is as good and positive a constructive plan as Germany has.

MR. RIPPY: What are we going to do with these surpluses in our country and in Latin America?

MR. SPENCER: Of course, we said at the outset—and Mr. Wallace indicated—that the details of this plan are not fully known and we can't tell except as events take place. These events are wholly unpredictable.

MR. RIPPY: The proposal isn't for the United States to buy up and dump all of these surpluses, is it?

MR. SPENCER: As I understand the proposal, it is to rid both the Americas of the surpluses in some way or another through the agency which is to be formed. Of course, if worst comes to worst, and as a way of saving the Americas, it would be cheaper for America to buy the surpluses and dump them in the ocean.[7]

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[7] *Charles Noyes writes: "The combined exports of all . . . . American republics [other than the United States] in 1938 were valued at only $1,758,014,000, of which we bought $357,215,000 worth. If we bought all the rest and dumped it into the ocean, it would cost us only about $1,401,000,000, less than half of what we expect to spend on armaments this year, and it would probably be worth while from a strictly defense point-of-view."* *(See Suggested Readings, page 21.f)*

MR. RIPPY: Is it necessary for us to take all of Latin America into this economic plan concerning the surpluses?

MR. PLATT: Certainly not! We have various alternatives, but while at the outset we need to consider the welfare of all Latin America as bound up with our welfare, we don't have to have all of Latin America bound up with us if Latin America doesn't see it that way.

MR. RIPPY: I think we'd better start, though, on the assumption that we are going to deal with the problem for Latin America as a whole. It would be rather dangerous, I think, to leave out any section of it.

MR. SPENCER: I'd like also to make the point (which the President has brought out in the open and which Mr. Wallace discussed briefly) that we ought to proceed on the hypothesis that the worst thing possible is going to happen.

MR. RIPPY: Absolutely! We can't take any chances. We can only *hope* the worst will not happen, but we can't assume that it *will not* happen.

MR. SPENCER: There is another way in which we can help in this, and that is by giving technical assistance and by furnishing capital to the South American countries. We don't have to sell out our American farmers, of course. There are other ways of helping the South American republics.

MR. RIPPY: I think we can help them develop economic enterprises not essentially in competition with our own enterprises, which are really efficient.

MR. PLATT: And we must be sure that we are not thinking of this in a paternalistic way because we will never be able to get Latin-American cooperation in that way.

MR. RIPPY: Not at all! We've got to dismiss all of that because those countries are important countries. They are highly civilized countries, and proud of their achievements.

MR. SPENCER: Of course, this plan—whether you call it a central trading agency or inter-American corporation or, to use the word which Platt used, a cartel—certainly has some very serious implications for the United States and its citizens. Not the least of these is that of military defense and military offense, if you want to think in those terms.

MR. PLATT: That seems to be bound up with the economic aspects of the problem. The question is, are we able to take a military position with reference to defense of all Latin America? Do we want to, or does Latin America want us to?

MR. SPENCER: A moment ago you spoke of the possibility of having an economic union involving something less than the whole of Latin America. Is it possible, from an economic and military point of view, to have some lesser portion of it, and where would you draw the line?

MR. PLATT: From my observations it appears to me that our problem, both in a military and economic way, would be greatly simplified if we wanted to accept a retreat to the northern part of Latin America. Not that I would say that was a good thing for us to do—I favor Rippy's plan of including the whole—but realizing that we have various alternatives.

MR. SPENCER: But suppose you did draw the line, let us say, at the Amazon River: how would it be from the point of view of military defense?

MR. PLATT: In my opinion, that line would be almost as good as through the South Atlantic in that there is no land route across the Amazon basin.

MR. RIPPY: But there would be the problem of bases. As I understand it, our desire is to prevent the totalitarians from obtaining military bases on the continent of South America.

MR. SPENCER: Certainly we have here a very serious problem, a problem not only of a political character but a problem of a social and economic character. The problem which we have got to solve is that of securing the cooperation—the full cooperation—of the South American republics in a plan which will preserve a free economic system and free political institutions in the two Americas.

MR. RIPPY: Absolutely correct! We've got to have that development, and I think we are already making a good deal of progress.

SUGGESTED READINGS

BEALS, CARLETON, *The Coming Struggle for Latin America.* New York: Lippincott, 1938. Condensed in *Reader's Digest*, November, 1938.

"Latin America: A New Frontier?" *United States News*, June 28, 1940. *The economic development of the Western Hemisphere interpreted as a part of the hemisphere's military defense, with some attention to the undeveloped resources of Latin America and the difficulties of their exploitation.*

NOYES, CHARLES E., "Where Trade Means Safety," *Nation*, June 15, 1940. *A plea for economic cooperation in the Western Hemisphere, based on a more reasonable American attitude.*

RIPPY, J. FRED, *Latin America in World Politics.* New York: Crofts, 1938. *A general survey of the Latin-American republics in relation to our modern political and economic system.*

RIPPY, J. FRED; PALYI, MELCHIOR; and WRIGHT, QUINCY, "The Economic Struggle for South America," a University of Chicago ROUND TABLE broadcast January 1, 1939. *Eighteen months ago the* ROUND TABLE *anticipated the impending economic struggle for South American trade.*

"The Way Hitler Plans to Tackle America," *United States News*, June 28, 1940. *An outline of the economic plan whereby Germany proposes to outstrip the United States in Latin America by the use of subsidies, forced labor, and the natural trade relationship of Europe to a producing area such as South and Central America.*

T.R.B., "Lock for the Hemisphere Gate," *New Republic*, June 24, 1940. *An analysis of the proposed inter-American trading corporation, dealing especially with its monopoly aspects and some of the problems involved.*

"U.S. Seeks a Hemisphere Economy," *Business Week*, June 29, 1940. *The Latin-American trade situation with a list of five specific points in the anticipated government program for Latin-American economic collaboration. Illustrated with charts and diagrams.*

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QUESTIONS FOR ANALYSIS AND DISCUSSION

The following questions of wider scope, intended for discussion, are suggested by the broadcast, and answers may be found in the literature on the subject listed in the section "Suggested Readings," found on page 21.

*

1. Do you favor a hemisphere control over exports? How would it operate to "keep Hitler out of the New World"? Discuss.

2. Should the United States extend credit to Latin America to help develop industry? Would political control follow such investments? How would it compare with German trade as a lever for political domination?

3. "A Nazi-dominated Europe would be primarily industrial; Latin America produces agricultural products and raw materials. An exchange would produce a natural trade relationship." How would political domination follow the development of such an interdependency? Do you consider it possible?

4. Is there any relationship between the proposed cartel system and "dollar diplomacy"?

5. Should the Western Hemisphere attempt to become self-sufficient in anticipation of an economic or ideological conflict between the New and Old Worlds. Do you consider it possible for great economic blocs, such as this would involve, to remain independent and on peaceful terms?

6. Discuss the relative merits of the plans to subsidize South American exports, and to buy export surpluses for distribution to needy Americans, as solutions of the inter-American trade problem.

OBJECTIVE QUESTIONS FOR EXAMINATION

The answers to the following questions may be found in the text of the broadcast, and page references are provided to assist in locating the answers.

*

1. How does Latin America compare in size and population with the United States? Page 3.
2. The diversity of populations in this area is shown by the use of what three European languages? Page 3.
3. What are the three classifications of Latin-American countries according to predominant industries or occupations? Page 4.
4. How many Latin-American republics are there? Page 4.
5. List the "large surpluses" Secretary Wallace mentioned in speaking of South America's export trade. Page 6.
6. What share of the United States' exports go to Latin America? How much do we import from Latin America? Page 9.
7. What type of goods predominate in our trade with Latin America? Page 9.
8. What three nations handle most of the foreign trade of Latin America? Page 11.
9. Define "cartel" as used in this discussion. Page 16.
10. If our concept of defense is to be limited to the northern third of South America, where should we draw the boundary line to obtain a defensible frontier? Page 19.

The Listeners' Round Table . . . .

Letters to the ROUND TABLE *frequently contain sidelights on the subject matter discussed on the air. These comments are from letters received following the broadcast June 23, "America's Capacity to Arm."*

*

Profits Reduced

Your ROUND TABLE talk brought up very important angles to our national defense. However, it is my firm opinion that unless profits for manufacturers are drastically and uprightly reduced to a minimum and watched to that end, that unrest and dissatisfaction will grow apace in our land. We are now an educated (comparatively) electorate taught to consider ourselves the equal of anyone, and such a people must demand equality of treatment or chaos will result before we ever see an outside enemy.

A listener, Illinois

*

Predicament

Is the National Guard of Illinois in the same predicament as the National Guard all over the United States? I hope not. I am a major in the National Guard of South Carolina and if we were called out tomorrow we would not have enough trousers or shirts to put on the men and we would have to arm them with baseball bats and pitchforks. I wonder if we are going to get any equipment. What can be done so that the National Guard can get equipment? The soldiers of today seemingly are looked upon as parasites.

Major ———, South Carolina

*

Straight Thinkers

Everyone enjoyed your program of Sunday, June 23. If you would invite more men like those who were on your program, who were straight thinkers and not idealists, your educational program would have much more value to the layman.

Every good citizen is interested in the welfare of labor but we are not interested in it governing the nation as it did in the case of France.

F. M. S., Nebraska

*

Machine Tools

Relative to a shortage of tool makers, there are possibly 200,000 such mechanics past 40 years of age, that because a large part have never been regimented by the industrialists

into mass production, are not acceptable to industry. Personally, outside of a year of apprenticeship, I have never worked more than four months at one time for any one employer; have been in every top machine tool shop from Boston to Kansas City; never was discharged in all my thirty years; have been designing machine tools for export, and now own a design for a machine tool that will machine four-fifths of the work on a radial motor in twelve minutes, meaning fifty motors over each machine each twelve hours. Up to now it is apparent that the older companies do not wish to discard their old boring mills, grinders, cumbersome jigs, and fixtures. Russia remains my best market, as the Japanese market was never any good for royalties, and Germany and Italy are entirely out. Naturally this market will not last for long, and if the Americans do not care for this item our friends, the Russians, might. They buy designs and have been contracting with the Rockford Machine Tool Company for construction.

H. E. B., Illinois

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A UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO ROUND TABLE BROADCAST

JULY 7, 1940

JOHN LAPP, Chairman, Chicago Civil Liberties Committee

A. R. M. LOWER, Professor of History, University of Manitoba, Canada

LOUIS WIRTH, Associate Professor of Sociology, University of Chicago

SUGGESTED READINGS

MALCOLMSON, CHARLES, "Mr. Jackson's Dilemma," *Nation,* June 8, 1940.

LOWER, A. R. M., "Wartime Democracy in Canada," *New Republic,* April 15, 1940.

WEYBRIGHT, VICTOR, "Communists and Civil Liberties," *Survey Graphic,* May, 1940.

[PRINTED IN U·S·A]